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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Markus BEIER

Art Unit: 1773

Appl. No. 09/856,341

Examiner: MICHENER, Jennifer Kolb

Filed: August 27, 2001

Attorney Docket: 03528.0131.PCUS00

For: DERIVATIZATION OF

SUPPORT SURFACES

Confirmation No.: 6855

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22213-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated February 18, 2004, and is submitted on or before the due date of March 18, 2004. The Examiner is requested to enter the amendments and consider the application. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, including fees under §1.17; or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. <u>08-3038</u> referencing Atty. Dkt. No. 03528.0131.PCUS00.